THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, June 10, 1805.

Sketch of the Life of Governor Pownall.

THIS gentleman died univerſally lamented, becauſe univerſally reſpected by all who knew him. He met his death with fortitude, being well prepared for the event, having long familiarized his mind to the contemplation of it. The excellent writings he hath left behind him, give ample evidence of his uncommon abilities. He retained his faculties, in perfect vigour, to the lateſt period of his life, as many ſcientific men can witneſs, who attended him almoſt to the cloſe of it. In his early days he filled a ſituation in the board of trade, and was much eſteemed by Lord Halifax, who was firſt lord of that board. In thoſe times this board of office was the beſt ſchool for young gentlemen, to obtain a rudimental knowledge of the commerce, the politics, and the intereſts of their country. Mr. Burke, however, by his bill of reform, in the year 1782, aboliſhed this office.

Mr. Thomas Pownall (the ſubject of this ſketch) conſtantly paid a particular and ſedulous attention to the affairs of the colonies. At the beginning of the ſeven years' war with France, which commenced in America, in 1754 (two years before it broke out in Europe), a number of perſons, who were ſtyled commiſſioners, being deputed from each colony, aſſembled at Albany, to conſider of the beſt method they could deviſe to defend themſelves againſt the French, who were making great and alarming encroachments on their back ſettlements. This aſſembly was called the Albany congreſs, and was the firſt congreſs held in America. The precedent of this congreſs gave riſe to the ſubſequent plan of a congreſs government, eſtabliſhed at the revolution in 1775.

As ſoon as the intention of the colonies to hold a congreſs at Albany was known in England, Mr. Pownall immediately foreſaw the danger to the mother country that this project of a general union would draw after it, if once permitted; and he preſented a ſtrong and impreſſive memorial to Lord Halifax on the ſubject. This was in the year 1754. The plan which the congreſs had in view was, to form a great council of deputies from all the colonies; with a governor-general to be appointed by the crown, and impowered to take meaſures for the common ſafety; and to raiſe money for the execution of their deſigns.

The miniſtry did not approve of this plan: but, ſeeing that they could not prevent the commiſſioners meeting, they reſolved to take advantage of this diſtreſs of the colonies, to turn the ſubject of deliberation to their own account. For this purpoſe they ſent over a propoſal, that the congreſs ſhould be aſſiſted in their conſiderations by two of the king's council from each colony, be empowered to erect forts, to levy troops, and to draw in the treaſury in London for the monies wanted; and the treaſury to be reimburſed by a tax on the colonies, to be laid by the Britiſh parliament. This propoſal was peremptorily rejected becauſe it gave to the Britiſh parliament a power to tax the colonies. This was the firſt idea of taxing the colonies by the authority of parliament. Theſe facts are but little known.

Although Mr. Pownall did not agree with the miniſtry in the whole extent of their propoſal, yet they thought him a gentleman ſo well acquainted with the affairs of the colonies, that, in the year 1757, they appointed him governor of Maſſachuſett's Bay, in the room of Mr. Shirley, removed. He did not give his confidence to Mr. Hutchinſon, Mr. Oliver, nor to any of their party; which they reſented, by propagating a variety of ſlanders againſt him amongſt the people, particularly amongſt the clergy, with a view of making his ſituation uncomfortable to him. He was a friend to liberty, and to the conſtitution; and therefore he countenanced no plots againſt either. Being exceedingly averſe to diſputation, after two years reſidence, he ſolicited to be recalled.

In the year 1759, Mr. Bernard (afterwards Sir Francis) was removed from New Jerſey to Maſſachuſett's Bay, and Governor Pownall went to New Jerſey in his room. He ſtaid in New Jerſey but a very ſhort time, being almoſt immediately appointed governor, captain-general, and vice-admiral, of South Carolina, in the room of Mr. Lyttleton, ſince Lord Lyttleton. He ſtaid in Carolina until the year 1761, when, at his own deſire, he was recalled.

Upon his arrival in London, he was appointed director-general of the office of controul, with the rank of colonel in the army,

under

under the command of Prince Ferdinand in Germany. While in this ſituation, having permitted ſome oats to paſs from Bremen for the uſe of the army, Mr. John Gueſt, who had been appointed inſpector of the magazines in Germany, declared they were damaged, and unfit for uſe: and he ſent a memorial to the lords of the treaſury in London, charging Governor Pownall with miſconduct in this matter. After ſome examination, the charge appeared to be unfounded, and, in conſequence, Mr. Gueſt was diſmiſſed from his employment. Gueſt came to London, and, in the ſpirit of revenge, ſent a copy of his memorial to Mr. Wilkes, who cauſed it to be printed in the fortieth number of the North Briton. At the end of the war Governor Pownall returned to England. His accounts were examined, and paſſed with honour.

At the general election, in 1768, he was choſen repreſentative in Parliament, for Tregony, in Cornwall. At this time the hoſtile deſigns of the Britiſh cabinet, againſt America, were become perfectly obvious. All America ſaw them, and every colony was ſeized with a general alarm. Theſe deſigns, and the meaſures which were founded upon them, Governor Pownall ſtrenuouſly and uniformly oppoſed in Parliament. His firſt eſſay was againſt the bill for ſuſpending the legiſlature of New York. In the debate on that bill he declared, with a warm and ſtrong emphaſis, "That it was a fact, which the houſe ought to be appriſed of in all its extent, that the people of America, univerſally, unitedly, and unalterably, are reſolved not to ſubmit to any internal tax impoſed upon them by any legiſlature, in which they have not a ſhare by repreſentatives of their own election." At this time very few people in England believed that America would make any ſerious reſiſtance: but, in a few years, Governor Pownall's words were found to be ſtrictly true.

His other ſpeeches in parliament, which are many in number, and very intereſting, were all printed by Mr. Almon, in his Parliamentary Regiſter, from Governor Pownall's own manuſcripts. The governor alſo aſſiſted Mr. Almon, very conſiderably, in his American Remembrancer; twenty volumes: a work that is now become extremely ſcarce.

At the general election, in 1775, Governor Pownall was elected repreſentative in parliament for Minehead, in Somerſetſhire. Throughout this parliament he continued to oppoſe every meaſure that was inimical to America. He approved of Mr. Grenville as a miniſter, but not of his American meaſures; which, he ſaid, were ſuggeſted and recommended by thoſe perſons in America to whom he had refuſed to give his confidence; and who, he ſaid, were the enemies of both countries. He highly eſteemed the late Lords Chatham and Temple, whom he always conſidered to be the truly diſintereſted friends of their country. With Dr. Franklin he was alſo upon terms of ſincere friendſhip.

And he was, with equal ardour, the opponent of that ſyſtem of government which Mr. Burke ſo happily denominated " a double cabinet." At the general election, in 1780, he retired from parliament; but he preſerved his connection and friendſhip with Mr. Almon. Some time afterwards he quitted Richmond, and retired to Bedfordſhire; but frequently viſited London and Bath.

In the month of Auguſt, 1765, he married Lady Fawkener, relict of Sir Everard Fawkener, who was for many years ambaſſador at the Porte; and who, while reſident there, wrote a very elaborate account and deſcription of Conſtantinople, more curious and entertaining than any in our books. It has never been printed. Her ladyſhip died in March, 1777. Governor Pownall died at Bath, on the 25th of February, 1805, in the 85th year of his age. It is not neceſſary to write any eulogy on his character; the detail of his public conduct is the beſt eulogy. He was a faithful ſervant to his ſovereign, and a ſincere friend to his country.

Particulars reſpecting the Manufactures of Birmingham.

[From Pratt's Harveſt Home.]

PREVIOUS to the revolution, in 1638, the manufactures of Birmingham were plain and uſeful articles of iron,—ſuch as nails, hinges, kitchen utenſils, and implements of huſbandry; to the making of which they were induced, by the abundant coal and iron mines in the neighbourhood. But in proceſs of time, they reverſed the ſcriptural prophecy, and converted ploughſhares into ſwords, and the inſtruments of peace into weapons of war. Guns were made here in the reign of William III. and now conſtitute one of the ſtaple manufactures of the place; —a manufacture carried on, particularly in time of war, to an incredible extent. During the late hoſtilities, one half of the muſkets ordered by government were finiſhed here, and the eſſential parts of the other half ſupplied. Our gun-makers were obliged to accompany every finiſhed muſket, ſent to the office of ordnance, with the barrel and lock of another muſket, in order to accommodate their brethren in London, who had intereſt enough to procure this regulation. For the purpoſe of proving theſe barrels, a proof-houſe was erected, by government, at the bottom of Walmer-lane, the exploſions of which were very terrific to ſtrangers. This was under the direction of one head viewer, and ſeveral ſubordinate ones, and was ſtiled *the Tower*. You will perceive we are aſſimilating to London apace, when we can already boaſt not only a *Tower*, but an excellent mint, of which more hereafter.

Here

Here it may be proper to diſſipate the public prejudices reſpecting guns, eſpecially fowling-pieces. Thoſe who make fire-arms for government of the beſt quality, may be rationally ſuppoſed to excel in guns of all deſcriptions; and this is really the caſe, though many people imagine that a Birmingham fowling-piece will not ſhoot, and therefore it will not ſell as well as one made in London. But what will theſe wiſe-acres ſay to the eſtabliſhed fact, that the barrels and locks of moſt of the guns, and very many of the guns themſelves that bear the London mark, are made in Birmingham? Diſregarding the common adage, that "practice makes perfect," and ſeduced by "whiſtling of a name," they fondly fancy the beſt things to be thoſe which fetch the beſt price, and are fabricated in the greateſt town. Be it known unto all men, by theſe preſents, that guns, with the beſt ſtub and twiſted barrels, eclipſing the formerly-famous barrels of Spain, the beſt ſkeleton locks, the beſt patent breeches, gold touch-holes, &c. are made here for one half, nay, one-third of the price which they bring in the metropolis: and yet a perſon unacquainted with the ſecret would ſuppoſe that Birmingham never produced a ſingle fowling-piece; for our gun-makers have the policy to uſe the ſuperſcription of London. You will ſmile when I inform you that guns, ay, and good-looking ones too, are made here at 7s. 6d. each. Theſe, though formidable in appearance, have two *ſmall* defects; the firſt is, that not being bored, except about an inch or two from the muzzle, they cannot be ſuppoſed to ſhoot very true; and the ſecond is, that not being *proved*, they cannot ſhoot at all. I beg pardon; they certainly undergo ſome ſort of proof, but not by *powder*, (for that would be too rough uſage,) but by *water*, which, if they are capable of holding without permitting it to ooze through their pores, they are ſufficiently qualified to diſcharge their duty; which is not to ſhed the blood of man or beaſt, but to decorate the habitation of ſome negro chieftain. Yet theſe inſtruments, though harmleſs and innocent, (except to the luckleſs wight which ſhould load and fire them,) would be conſidered as guilty by the friends of humanity, as they are indiſputably employed in the nefarious African traffic, and bartered for human fleſh and blood.

I know not who firſt introduced the gun-manufacture into this town, but upwards of ſeventy years ago it was conducted on a ſcale then thought large, by a Mr. Jordan, who had contracts with government, and whoſe ſon ſucceeding him in the buſineſs, attained the honour of *ſhrievalty*—an honour to which other gun-ſmiths in the town have been ſince exalted.

For a conſiderable time after Birmingham had made muſkets for the public ſervice, government continued to procure their ſwords from Germany: but, after the moſt rigid ſcrutiny, our

manufacture

manufacture obtained a decided preference. Such are the ſtrength and temper of theſe ſwords that, with a ſingle blow from a ſtrong arm, they will either cut a muſket through or render it uſeleſs. The importance of a good ſword, or ſabre, is obvious; ſhould his weapon fail him, the moſt gallant horſeman, the moſt vigorous hero, is diſarmed and helpleſs; and, in order to ſecure excellence, government has inſtituted the utmoſt ſeverity of proof, and they have been ſo well ſeconded by the increaſing ingenuity of our workmen, that the maſſy Mooriſh ſabre, the *truſty* toledo of Spain, and the ferraras of the Highlanders, muſt yield to the Birmingham weapon, which poſſeſſes ſufficient ſubſtance without encumbring weight, and elaſticity without flimſineſs. Previous to making ſwords for the public uſe, Birmingham was celebrated for its bayonets: the firſt government-contract for the former was given to the late Mr. S. Dawes, of Snow-hill, and the late Mr. Harvey: and both theſe important articles are now, almoſt excluſively, ſupplied from hence, to the great emolument of the town and of the public; for the blades of Birmingham, like the hearts of Britiſh warriors, will never fail. In addition to muſkets and bayonets, ſwords and piſtols, army accoutrements likewiſe are provided here; and all theſe branches have proved fertile ſources of opulence.

The buckle was one of our early and moſt valuable manufactures; it gave employment to twenty thouſand people in this town and neighbourhood, but it is now nearly extinguiſhed, by the caprice of faſhion; by ladies wearing ſlippers, gentlemen ſhoe-ſtrings, and buckles being diſcontinued in the army. Upon the grave of this once flouriſhing trade you, Mr. Gleaner, in your poetical capacity, might dictate an epitaph; but chords of your lyre would vibrate in vain. Faſhion had no feeling for the poor buckle-makers. Strong petitions were preſented on the ſubject, in 1790, to the prince of Wales, and the duke and ducheſs of York, as the arbiters of faſhion, and the directors of taſte, who, with a humanity that does them great honour, promiſed to do, and no doubt did, every thing in the way of example and influence to reſtore the drooping manufacture, but in vain. Many people, thrown out of employ by the unexpected failure of this buſineſs, applied themſelves to making chains, keys, ſeals, trinkets, and other elegant appendages to watches; but, being threatened once more with beggary, by the tax upon clocks and watches, they, in conjunction with other parties intereſted, preſented a vigorous petition to the miniſter, and were relieved by a repeal of that injudicious tax. On this occaſion you will permit me to make two obſervations; firſt, that previous to the impoſition of a tax, all its collateral conſequences, ſome of which may not be very obvious, but very important and extenſive, ſhould be maturely weighed; and ſecondly, that

it is always ſounder policy to tax the wealth acquired by manufactures than manufactures themſelves; for wide and ſerious is the difference between plucking the fruit and cutting down the tree.

Great fortunes were formerly acquired by this manufacture, but it is unpleaſant to deſcant on the melancholy theme. As nothing can be permanent in the regions of faſhion, it is poſſible there may be a reſurrection of the buckle-trade; but, at preſent, I ſee no proſpect of ſuch an event. Ladies and gentlemen, no doubt, are ſo occupied in the accompliſhment of their heads, that they have no leiſure to decorate their feet. Even the latchets or elaſtic buckles of our Soho, which ſo ſtrikingly unite elegance with convenience, have not that ſpread to which they are entitled by their merit.

FASHIONS *for* JUNE.

Full Dress.

TURBANS much ornamented with gold, ſilver, or patent pearls; tiaras, very brilliant, with lace nun's veils; white ſatin hats, embroidered with gold and ſilver in front, and oſtrich feathers; the hair dreſſed in the Perſian ſtyle, divided in front; the dreſſes are of farſnets, muſlins of all kinds, and ſprigged picquets and lenoes, chiefly white, with the inſtallation mantles, richly embroidered with ſilver or gold, and ſpangled all over; a rich embroidered border inſerted in the front of the dreſſes, and round the train, is very faſhionable, and lace alſo for half dreſs, ſleeves to correſpond.

Morning Dreſs.—Tight to the throat, with long ſleeves, and very little train; the moſt elegant and faſhionable bonnet is the Grecian ſhape, in chip, ſtraw, ſilk, &c. &c. and, from the various ways in which it is ornamented, and rendered becoming to every one, it is likely to remain the rage for the ſummer; the gypſy hat, and other large hats and bonnets for open carriages, with long mantles of ſprigged picquets, lined with pale colour, faſtened on with ſilk handkerchiefs to correſpond; cloaks ſimilar to what were worn laſt ſummer, and others that croſs the back, like braces, trimmed with lace, are much worn, but thoſe with a double trimming fluted, are the moſt genteel; muſlin pelices, lined with colour, and ſpencers the ſame, are equally worn.

Head Dreſſes.—Cap of lace and crape, bound and trimmed with primroſe colours. Cap of white lace, tied under the chin with a blue ſilk handkerchief, and ornamented with a yellow flower. Turband of apple-bloſſom ſilk, with white oſtrich feather. Cap of pink crape, with a deep white lace round the front,

front, ornamented with a flower. Straw hat turned up in front. A bonnet of blue ſilk. Bonnet of buff ſilk, with a wreath of roſes.

General Obſervations.—The prevailing colours are apple-bloſſom, primroſe, lilac, and blue. Long Spaniſh cloaks, lined with coloured ſilk, and tied cloſe round the throat, are much worn. For walking, ſhort dreſſes of cambric muſlin, made high in the neck, with a collar, and a very deep flounce at the bottom, are much worn. Straws hat are univerſally worn.

Character and Anecdotes of Sir Charles Morice Pole, Bart.

THIS gentleman is a vice-admiral of the red, and one of the repreſentatives in parliament for Newark. He is alſo chairman of the committee for enquiring into abuſes in the department of the navy, and other branches of public expenditure, whoſe meritorious labours have ſo deſervedly excited the general attention and applauſe of the public.

This gallant admiral is of the diſtinguiſhed family of Pole, of Shute, in Devonſhire; being great grandſon of Sir John Pole, (the third baronet,) and of Anne, youngeſt daughter of Sir William Morice, Knight, one of the ſecretaries of ſtate to Charles the Second. The father of Sir Charles was Reginald Pole, Eſq. of Stoke Damarell, in the county of Devon, who married Anne, ſecond daughter of John Francis Buller, Eſq. of Morval, in the county of Cornwall.

Charles Morice was born at Stoke Damarell, January 18, 1757. He was bred to the naval profeſſion at the Royal Academy at Portſmouth, and firſt went to ſea with Sir Edward Vernon in the year 1773. He afterwards ſerved in the Eaſt Indies with Sir Edward Hughes, by whom he was made maſter and commander into the Cormorant ſloop, in which he brought to England the account of the capture of Pondicherry, where he had the command of the ſeamen employed on ſhore.

On the 22d of April, 1779, he was made poſt, and for ſome years commanded the Britannia in the Channel fleet, as Vice-admiral Darby's captain.

Being afterwards commander of the Succeſs frigate, while on his paſſage to Gibraltar, entruſted with the charge of an army tranſport, he met with the Santa Catalina Spaniſh frigate, which, after a gallant action, ſurrendered to him; but in the moment of victory, a ſuperior force appearing, he was compelled to burn his prize, having previouſly taken out the crew: in this inſtance, from a conſideration of the value of the tranſport to the beſieged garriſon, ſacrificing without regret his perſonal intereſt

to

to his public duty; a courſe which he ſeems to have uniformly purſued.

During the peace which commenced in 1783, he commanded the Crown guard-ſhip; and, upon occaſion of the Spaniſh armament, was appointed to the Melampus, at that time the largeſt and moſt approved frigate in the navy. While the diſcuſſions with the Spaniſh government exiſted, he was wholly employed off Breſt, watching the motions of the French, which were ſtrongly indicative of an intention to fulfil the ſtipulations of the family compact; ſuch being the counſel given to the unfortunate Louis the Sixteenth, to prevent the further progreſs of the revolution; which, however, had then taken ſuch deep root, that the attempt to equip a fleet at Breſt failed; and the Spaniards, diſappointed of a powerful ally, came into our terms in the well-known negociations between Lord St. Helen's and Florida Blanca.—But to return to our ſubject.

Captain Pole was next appointed to command the Coluſſus; in which ſhip he accompanied Lord Hood to the Mediterranean, and was preſent at the ſurrender of Toulon. He afterwards hoiſted his flag as rear-admiral (to which rank he had been promoted in 1795) in the laſt-mentioned ſhip, ſerved in the Weſt Indies as ſecond in command, and had his ſhare in many important tranſactions.

On his return to England, he became firſt captain of the Channel fleet under Admiral Lord Bridport; and at no period was this great protective force in more able hands. He was afterwards appointed governor and commander in chief at Newfoundland; but, on Lord Nelſon's return from the North Sea, he was thought worthy to fill the place of that diſtinguiſhed officer; and his conduct in this command, at a very critical period for our country, fully juſtified the choice that had been made of him. It gave force to our propoſitions for an accommodation with the northern powers; which taking place, Vice-admiral Pole was, as a ſpontaneous mark of his majeſty's favour, created a baronet of Great Britain, Auguſt 18, 1801. During the ſhort interval between that time and the concluſion of the peace of Amiens, our admiral had the command of a ſquadron off Cadiz.

It has been the lot of but few officers in his majeſty's navy to paſs through ſuch a variety of ſervice. We have only to add of Sir Charles Morice Pole, that while the conſtancy, integrity, and ability, diſplayed in his public capacity, demand the applauſe of his country, the virtues of his private life, the urbanity of his manners, and the goodneſs of his heart, may be held up as worthy of general imitation.

Ceremonial of the Inveſtiture of Lord Nelſon with the Order of St. Joachim, the Father of the holy Virgin Mary.

BUT the event which has ſtamped an indelible mark of celebrity on this order, is the nomination and reception of Nelſon, that illuſtrious hero of the age, in the quality of grand commander of this equeſtrian militia. Although the order of St. Joachim can boaſt of princes of the houſes of Saxony and Naſſau, and of many nobles of the oldeſt and prime families of the German empire, who have been inveſted with this dignity; yet do the knights of the preſent, and ſo will all thoſe of future generations, ever conſider this as a circumſtance which, to the whole body, is of the higheſt moment and importance. Upon that baſis will henceforward be eſtabliſhed the everlaſting edifice of its fame and glory. On the 14th of September, 1801, the general chapter thought proper, unanimouſly, to confer this diſtinction upon Horatio Lord Viſcount Nelſon, Duke of Bronte, and the chancellor was eſpecially commiſſioned to give orders to the maſter of the ceremonies, to the end that it might be officially announced to that nobleman. This was done by a letter, in date September the 29th, 1801, that being the birth-day of this great and unrivalled commander. In truth what day could, on all accounts, be ſo ſuitable? It is at once the anniverſary feaſt-day of the angelic hoſt, and of the birth of one of the brighteſt ornaments of the navy of Great-Britain. Did we live in ages of Roman or Barbaric ſuperſtition, ſuch a peculiar combination of epochas would be conſidered as prophetically auſpicious. Might we be allowed to compare human exploits to thoſe which are divine, or the efforts of a mortal to thoſe of a celeſtial being, how juſtly might the parallel be drawn upon the preſent occaſion? the heavenly warrior appears to have been the ſcriptural archetype of the hero who fought for his God, his country, and his ſovereign.

The agitations which accompanied the concluſion of the laſt war, having prevented the new-elected grand commander from communicating the decree of the general chapter to his liege ſovereign, and from obtaining the royal approbation to accept and wear the inſignia of the order; that illuſtrious body was not therefore appriſed of theſe ſo much wiſhed for events until early in the commencement of the year 1802. The approbation of his Britannic Majeſty, and the conſequent acceptance of the conqueror of Aboukir, were then formally notified to the chancellor as the principal organ of the general chapter; and thoſe notifications were couched in terms the moſt polite and the moſt expreſſive.

Thus has this chapteral order been amply gratified by the ſolemn and authentic recognition of the king of Great-Britain; and by the reception of a nobleman, from whoſe name every order

order muſt acquire a brilliancy, which time, the devourer of all things, can never efface or eclipſe. On the ſecond of April, 1802, all the accuſtomed formalities, as preſcribed by the ſtatutes, having been ſcrupulouſly obſerved, and previouſly gone through, the chancellor preſented the uſual diploma to the general-chapter, which, by the willing ſuffrages of all preſent, having received the unanimous ſanction of the deputies of the different claſſes, was then ſigned by his highneſs the grand-maſter—counterſigned by the chancellor—and the great ſeal of the order being ſolemnly affixed thereto; the ſame, with the appropriate enſigns, was immediately tranſmitted to Horatio Lord Viſcount Nelſon, a peer of the united kingdoms, and duke of Bronte, and a magnat of the ancient and loyal kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

Agricultural Premiums given this Year by the Society of Arts of London.

TO the Right Hon. the Earl of Bredalbane, who has lately improved a large tract of land in Scotland, unfit for the plough, by plantations of larch, and Scotch firs, which are now in a flouriſhing ſtate, the ſilver medal of the ſociety has been voted as a mark of their approbation.

To Thomas Johnes, Eſq. of Haford, M. P. for Cardigan, the gold medal has been adjudged for planting 922,000 oaks, beſides other valuable trees.

To John Chriſtian Curwen, Eſq. M. P. for Carliſle, the gold medal has been adjudged for his admirable ſyſtem of culture of beans and wheat. Upon this principle, after a good crop of beans hath been procured in ſummer, the ſame land has been ſown with wheat in autumn, and more grain produced than by a previous fallow.

To William Taylor, of Beamiſh, the gold medal has been adjudged, for improving 301 acres of land lying waſte, and rendering an eſtate, which coſt him, in May, 1799, 2665l. at preſent of the value of 9023l. 13s.

Captain John Miller, the nephew of the worthy founder of the ſociety, Mr. Shipley, is entitled to a reward for a pair of ſheers for clipping wool, which will prevent the ſheep from being wounded in ſhearing, which has frequently occurred; for which invention he will receive a ſilver medal.

The neceſſity of incloſing land is univerſally known: hawthorn fences have been found moſt effectual, but are tedious in their growth; to obviate this inconvenience, Samuel Taylor, Eſq. of Morton, has proved by a variety of accurate experiments, that a greater increaſe of hawthorn plants may be had from cuttings of the roots, than by any other mode, and that

ſuch plants are ſtouter and quicker in growth; for theſe experiments the ſociety have voted him their ſilver medal.

A nice diſcrimination is neceſſary to aſcertain the progreſſive and comparative value of timber trees in plantations. A communication, received from Mr. John Farey, has ſhewn the method of making it, and contains many intereſting obſervations relative to a plantation called Brown's Wood, belonging to the Duke of Bedford, which has been made more than twenty-ſix years, for which he will receive the ſilver medal.

The attention of agriculturiſts has been much engaged in conſidering the beſt means of improving boggy land, and much has been ſaid on the advantages of Mr. Elkington's mode of draining: but Mr. William Smith hath improved a conſiderable tract of land, where Mr. Elkington's attempt had failed, belonging to his grace the duke of Bedford, called Priſley Bog, and by a ſuperficial irrigation of ſuch land, has brought twenty acres into firm land, producing the moſt valuable herbage. The ſociety, for this communication, have voted him their ſilver medal.

Mr. William Watſon, of North Middleton, has continued his comparative culture of turnips, and clearly proved, by experiments, that drill huſbandry is much ſuperior to the broadcaſt for this uſeful vegetable. The ſociety have therefore voted to him the ſum of ten pounds.

Mr. Seth Bull, of Ely, who received a reward in 1802, for planting oſiers, has been the ſucceſsful candidate in the ſame claſs this ſeſſion, having planted ſeven acres of land, for which he was entitled to the gold medal, or thirty guineas, but has preferred the latter.

REFLECTIONS *on* DUELLING.

By Rowland Ingram, B. D.

IF the mind once ſuffer itſelf ſtedfaſtly to ſurvey, in its genuine and undiſguiſed colours, the moral complexion of a duel, either every rational obligation muſt have been previouſly diſclaimed, or the reſolution muſt ſpontaneouſly follow, for ever and unalterably to abjure the ferocious combat: and this reſolution, a juſt conception of the human character, inſtead of engendering chimerical fears of ſubſequent cenſure, will encourage and confirm. The life of the individual may be a public bleſſing of wide extent; nor ever is it in fact more truly valuable, or more likely to be ſo appreciated by others, than when in the hands of one, who can beſt aſſign to it its true value, neither timidly parſimonious of it, when his country, or any juſt neceſſity, points to danger, nor abſurdly laviſh of it, when a

thouſand

thouſand calls of duty forbid the riſk, and no palpable good requires it. And he who maintains, or hazards it in ſtrict regard to the purpoſes for which it was conferred, muſt have far too ſtrong a hold upon the hearts and intereſts of all connected with him, to ſuſtain a diminution of their eſteem at the inſtant when he merits its ampleſt meaſure; much leſs to be long regarded with unreflecting ſcorn, or otherwiſe to be impreſſed by the attacks of calumny, than the file by the viper's broken tooth. Placed in the identical circumſtances, in which numbers have imagined that they could only preſerve their reputation by death or murder, it might be his triumphant lot to preſent to the world an example, which ſhould forcibly attract, not blame, but heartfelt applauſe—an example, which publicity would only ſerve to exalt, as a ſignal precedent, worthy of the moſt emulous imitation. Let me not, however, be thought too ſanguine. The eſtabliſhment of ſuch a precedent is in the probability of events, perhaps, to be only expected from characters of ſuperlative weight and ſettled worth; from characters, to ſpeak more within compaſs, which are leaſt likely to be involved in the trial. For whoever ſhould decline a duel from principle, would, in conſiſtence with the ſame principle, cheriſh with attentive care a ſtrong hoſt of habits, alike formidable in abaſhing the inſolent and powerful to conciliate all beſides. In the pages of the Goſpel, if no where elſe, there is a certain temper delineated, which, however it may be derided in words by the petulant and the frivolous, is never viewed in real life, without either willing or reluctant reverence, without love, or without awe.

This temper whoever, having once fixed his eyes upon the right path, is reſolutely bent upon purſuing the ſame through life, will ſee from daily obſervation upon men and manners, more and more reaſon to prize and cultivate. From the twofold experience of his own imperfections, and thoſe of other men, he will readily eſtimate the value of that circumſpect forbearance, which will beſt preclude him both from giving, and receiving offence: yet by a rigid adherence to his preſcribed courſe, he will ſcarcely fail of ſhewing, upon numberleſs proofs, that his forbearance is not the forbearance of a coward: and that his circumſpection is no other, than the watchfulneſs of the brave ſentinel, whoſe eye is ever directed towards the quarters of the enemy, not for the purpoſe of eluding, on the approach of danger, but of fulfilling, in whatever mode the chance of unforeſeen events may require it, the duties of his truſtful ſtation.

At the ſame time, ſhould any one imagine that his own character is not ſufficiently well eſtabliſhed to bear him out in a ſimilar conflict with the conceits, and prejudices, and miſconſtructions of the world; let him remember, that whatever there may have been defective in paſt conduct, whatever may have been

the

the amount of the antecedent faults or weakneſſes, though the probability of future miſdemeanour may be increaſed, yet not even the ſhadow of an apology can hence be urged for the commiſſion of it. For, though it be granted, that he, who has taken one falſe ſtep, is more likely to take another and another, than one, who has never deviated from his path, yet monſtrous indeed would be the doctrine, which ſhould aſſert, that he, who has unhappily entered on a wrong courſe, muſt, as if impelled by an irreſiſtible deſtiny, neceſſarily proceed in that courſe; his follies and indiſcretions, inſtead of opening his eyes, by their conſequences, to the error of his ways, being thus converted into an argument for the perpetration of more enormous guilt.

PRESENT STATE *of* AUSTRIAN DALMATIA.

[From a Letter of a Traveller of Diſtinction, from Sebenico, in Auſtrian Dalmatia, dated March 4, 1805.]

THE country from which I write to you is, in the preſent political ſituation of Europe, of the higheſt importance, and yet but imperfectly known. I will give you ſome account of its manners and peculiarities. The head quarters of the troops which have lately arrived, are at Zara, the capital of the province, and moſt of the men are diſtributed among the deſart iſlands of the Guarnero, and from Cattaro to Trau.

Sebenico is compoſed of wretched houſes, among which a few good buildings, belonging to wealthy inhabitants, are conſtructed, in an amphitheatrical form, on ſteep rocks. It contains a fortreſs, partly the work of nature and partly of art, which, upwards of a century ago, defied the repeated attacks of the Turks, to whom it would have been an important poſt. Many years ſince Sebenico was the aſylum of pirates, to whom the narrow entrance out of the ſea into the Cherka, which may be ſo eaſily defended, afforded the utmoſt ſecurity againſt any ſurpriſe.

This town is at preſent inhabited by Morlacks, as they are denominated. The *nobili* in general dreſs in the German faſhion; and, beſides the Illyrian, which is the language of the country, they ſpeak bad Italian. They are not very partial to the Germans. Among them there are a few well-diſpoſed people; but all, without exception, are rude and uncultivated. Of opportunities of inſtruction, they are utterly deſtitute. Venice, to whom this country was formerly ſubject, ſuffered its inhabitants to receive nothing but its caſt-off faſhions, without, however, loſing ſight of the grand object, the revenues it derived

from them. The fair ſex is about a century behind the females of Germany; in a word, knitting and ſewing are the whole of their accompliſhments: literature, the arts, fine works and muſic, being entirely unknown here, excepting to a very ſmall number of the men who have been educated in Italy.

The country is of the moſt dreary deſcription, particularly the ſhores of the Cherka, with their perpendicular rocks, towering aloft to the ſkies. For many miles, there is neither wood nor field; nothing but a ſurface of craggy rock. Nature cannot poſſibly be more niggardly. The ſubſiſtence of the natives conſiſts of ſome wretched fruits, *mineſtra*, a kind of thick, half raw rice ſoup, mixed with water and oil; mutton, ſmall, wild beans, and hard ſheep's milk cheeſe, are the food of the lower claſſes; fiſh, fowl, and beef, of the higher ranks; but wine is ſo plentiful that all of them live in a continual intoxication. Hence, their incapacity for all mental exertions, and the principal trait in their character, indolence. Good vegetables, fruits, good milk, and freſh butter, are things to which they are utter ſtrangers. Veal was never ſeen here, and with game they are unacquainted. All the men continually go armed; and even the peaſant when driving his cattle, or engaged in any other occupation. Of ſocial parties, or aſſemblies, there is none, not even among the higher claſſes.

Not far from Sebenico, is Spalatro, where a temple, a monument of Roman grandeur, ſtill remains entire, in perfect magnificence. It was once conſecrated to Jupiter, but is now employed for Chriſtian worſhip. Spalatro likewiſe contains the ruins of a palace of Diocleſian: but no traces are now left of the ſplendid gardens of that emperor, which were ſituated at Salona. Here and there are found other monuments of paſt greatneſs, proofs that the rulers of Greece and Rome had likewiſe ſettled there. Their ſpirit, however, was buried beneath theſe venerable ruins; all is now a ſcene of wildneſs and deſolation.

The climate is ſharp, and you may perceive that you are near the ſea. The ſituation of Sebenico is ſuch as to encreaſe the force of the winds, and hence the ſcanty vegetation in the ſurrounding country.

The ſame ceremonies are obſerved here at weddings and funerals. The greateſt dainty on ſuch an occaſion is a caſtrano (a ſheep) roaſted whole, and an incredible quantity of wine is conſumed, ſo that the gueſts are ſcarcely able to ſee each other. The bride and bridegroom ſleep the three firſt nights between two large veſſels of wine, in the cellar, which, however, is not under ground.

Their dances, in which thoſe who chuſe to take part in the amuſement, form a long row, are not accompanied with inſtrumental

mental muſic, but only with a kind of bawling, which always ends with *O;* and in a very ſimple manner repeats the atchievements of an ancient Illyrian king, called Marco. They have a ſecond kind of dance, in which each perſon moves by himſelf in little circles, in meaſured time without any noiſe or ſinging whatever. A third kind of dance is a mixture of figures that cannot eaſily be deſcribed, accompanied with the ſound of a kind of drum, and another inſtrument, conſiſting of a thick ſtring of ſtrained horſe-hair, acroſs which a thinner is drawn; it gives a diſagreeable tone, and is called guſla. When theſe diverſions are over, the relations and acquaintance fill their hats and the empty bottles, amidſt the moſt dreadful howling. In this manner they attend the new-married couple to their dwelling, or the deceaſed to the grave. All the friends then go home, and endeavour, by a carouſal, ſuited to their circumſtances and their taſte, to teſtify their ſorrow for the loſs they have ſuſtained, or their joy for the happy union.

Of newſpapers, one individual takes "The Journal de Francfort." Beſides this, you may now and then ſee a Vienna or a Florence journal; but they are not received regularly.

Remarks on Combinations to raiſe the Price of Labour, particularly as they affect the People of Ireland.

By WILLIAM PRESTON, Eſq.

I May reckon among the diſadvantages under which Ireland, at preſent, labours, the ſpirit of inſubordination, the temper of agitation and ferment, the working leaven of revolution diſpoſing men to wiſh and look for change and innovation; and, to viſionary expectations of ſudden opulence, without previous labour, which are highly injurious to the ſpirit of patient and honeſt induſtry. Hence have ariſen thoſe outrages and illegal combinations to enhance the prices of labour, which are a reproach to a country, and muſt prove the bane of commerce and manufacture. No ſooner does an increaſed demand ariſe for any branch of manufacture, or any particular kind of commodity, which requires labour in the preparation, but, inſtantly, the workmen concerned in it combine to extort higher wages.

This diſpoſition is moſt fatal, to the intereſts of the country at large, and even to the peculiar intereſts of the wretched men, who blindly ſacrifice permanent proſpects, and a ſenſe of duty and deference to the laws, to a brief preſent gain, and indulgence in licence and intemperance. The conſequences are, that the country will thus be thrown out of the poſſeſſion of foreign markets, which are only to be ſecured, by the cheapneſs

and goodneſs of manufactures. They diſcourage maſter manufacturers from commencing new works, or extending thoſe already eſtabliſhed: and, it muſt be remembered, that the exorbitant price of labour falls with a ſevere re-action on thoſe who enhance it, and makes them pay dearer, in proportion to their own extortion, for every neceſſary of life. If the maſon, the ſlater, the carpenter, combine to exact enormous wages from their employers; the taylor, the ſhoemaker, the hatter, the weaver, the ruſtic labourer, will do the ſame; and thus theſe fooliſh and wicked men make their crime its own puniſhment, ſince they become the cauſe of raiſing on themſelves the price of every article of food and cloathing they conſume, of every tool they employ in their reſpective trades.

Let not, then, the combining tradeſman, or labourer, vainly imagine, that he ſhall become richer, or increaſe his comforts, by extorting increaſed wages from his employer; nothing can be farther from the truth: for if he gains, on the wages of the one trade exerciſed by himſelf, he is ſure to loſe, in proportion, on all the trades and callings, exerciſed by all other labouring men in the community: for, to every one of them he will find occaſion to reſort, in the courſe of the year, by purchaſing ſome thing or other which it produces. He will find himſelf obliged to pay dearer, than he otherwiſe would, for his bread, his beer, his potatoes, his meat;—the hat, the coat, the ſhirt, the ſhoes he wears;—for the apparel of his wife and children;—for the room which he inhabits;—the very bench or ſtool on which he ſits, and the tool, or inſtrument, with which he executes his labour. Thus, by the deſtructive ſpirit of combination, the labouring poor are, without being ſenſible of it themſelves, engaged in a cruel inteſtine warfare of exaction, and eagerly employed to diſtreſs and impoveriſh each other.

On PERSEVERANCE.

ALL the performances of human art, at which we look with praiſe or wonder, are inſtances of the reſiſtleſs force of perſeverance; it is by this that the quarry becomes a pyramid, and that diſtant countries are united by canals. If a man was to compare the effect of a ſingle ſtroke with the pick-axe, or of one impreſſion of a ſpade, with the general deſign and laſt reſult, he would be overwhelmed with the ſenſe of their diſproportion; yet thoſe petty operations, inceſſantly continued, in time ſurmount the greateſt difficulties; and mountains are levelled, and oceans bounded, by the ſlender force of human beings.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

TO THE MUSE.

——————IN this ſtill hour,
When ſolemn ſilence reigns, when buſy man,
Wearied with toil, and deſtitute of care,
Sinks on the downy pillow of repoſe;
I, I alone, the ſweets of peace reſign,
To court, fair muſe, thy unavailing ſmiles.
Say, child of love! O ſay doſt thou poſſeſs
That heav'nly balm, which conſolation pours
On miſery's rankling wound? If ſuch thou haſt,
O! mitigate my woes; and chill the flame
That preys, unceaſing, on my tortur'd ſoul.

Like the ſoft dews of heav'n, which fall, and cheer
The drooping lily, parch'd with ſummer-ſuns,
Do thou deſcend, on hope's expanſive wings,
And ſave me from deſpair. O! let thy ſtrains
In the fair boſom of my love arouſe
That tender ſympathy, that joy refin'd,
Which lovers feel in all their fond delights.
Tell her, ſweet muſe! for her alone I breathe,
For her, whoſe ſmiles exalt my ſoul to Heav'n,
Whoſe frowns depreſs me to the ſhades below.

——————But hark!
The midnight clock, with ſlow and awful toll,
Warns me of morn's approach. And, lo! the moon,
Wrapp'd in night's cloudy mantle, ſinks to reſt
Beneath the weſtern hill. Then, farewell muſe!
I too will ſtretch me on my downy couch,
And drown my ſorrows in FORGETFULNESS.

COLIN.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The CHRISTIAN PREPARED *to* DIE.

GENTLE death! O gentle friend!
Come, and all my ſuff'rings end!
Lay this mortal body low,
Far beneath the reach of woe.

Come, thou guide t' eternal reſt,
Where nor ſtrife, nor cares moleſt;
From theſe chains my ſoul releaſe—
Lead her to eternal peace!

Thin partition, O decay!
Break—thy ſummons now obey!
Sink, O ſink! (for lo! thou muſt)
To thy own, thy kindred duſt!

Be

Be thou lifted, mortal veil!
Lo! what raptures do I feel!
Heav'n revealing to my ſight
Scenes of exquiſite delight.

Mighty Saviour! King of Men!
Now in all thy glory ſeen!
O to free me give conſent—
Let theſe cords of life be rent!

Rend them, rend them! Let me riſe!
Lo! this bondage I deſpiſe!
Rend them, rend them, that I be
Inſtantly convey'd to thee!

Let me, let me, at thy feet,
All my views of bliſs complete!
Let my ever grateful lyre
Breathe the moſt extatic fire!

Lo! I faint! the ſtruggle's come—
Send this body to its home!
Lo! I riſe—the ſtruggle's o'er,
And I'm bleſt for evermore.

Sherborne. B. AYRES.

ADDRESS *to* MAY.

HAIL, bounteous May! to nature's votaries dear,
Thou loveliеſt offſpring of the fruitful year!
The ſportive graces in thy train advance,
Move their light feet, and form the mazy dance:
To thee fair village maids their garlands bring,
Bluſh with freſh health, and feel the genial ſpring;
A little ſpace, ere gloomy years o'erſhade,
Like thee to flouriſh, and like thee to fade.
Hail! choſen month of old! when temperate ſhow'rs,
Enrich'd the meads, and nurs'd the opening flowers:
When fruits uncropp'd to wide diſorder ran,
Peace dwelt on earth, and God convers'd with man
What time from chaos, ſtormy, dark, and wild,
Creation ſprang, and ſpring perpetual ſmil'd;
When ſhedding health and life the ſoft'ning air,
All darkneſs chas'd, at whoſe mild breath deſpair
Might feel a ſullen joy, and cheer'd diſeaſe
Spring from her couch to catch th' enliv'ning breeze:
Thus thro' the elyſian fields the zephyrs ſtray'd,
And murmuring ſooth'd the penſive hero's ſhade;
Sigh'd ſadly pleaſing thro' the cypreſs wood,
Whoſe gloomy branches wav'd o'er Lethe's flood.

At that dread hour when heav'n's artillery hurl'd,
Shall melt the nations, and conſume the world;
When the bleſt ſpirits of the good ſhall know
The promis'd meed of all their earthly woe;
Perhaps an air like thine, O gentle May,
Shall raiſe the pleaſures of eternal day,
Improve the bliſs our Maker has deſign'd,
To pleaſe the ſenſe, and elevate the mind.

Hail then, delightful month, the ſeaſon's prime,
That once bleſs'd Eden's groves, and now heaven's purer clime.

X. Y.

ODE *for his* MAJESTY'S BIRTH-DAY, 1805.

By H. J. PYE, *Esq. Poet-Laureat.*

HIGH on the winding ſhores* ſublime,
That Thames' imperial waves divide,
Majeſtic in the garb of time,
Where yon proud dome frowns on the ſilver tide;
Honour's and knighthood's bright abode,
By nobles, warriors, patriots trod,
What time from Gallia's vanquiſh'd coaſt,
Returning with his victor hoſt,
Triumphant Edward rear'd, on high,
The banner'd meed of chivalry;
While eminent above the reſt,
With ſable arms and ſnowy creſt,
The youthful hero grac'd his ſide,
His country's and his ſovereign's pride;
From ev'ry clime, lo! glory calls
Her votaries to yon trophied walls;
Binds her fair guerdon round each loyal breaſt,
And bids them combat pride, and ſuccour worth oppreſs'd.

The notes of triumph ſwell again!
Lo! Windſor boaſts, as bright a train
Of royal youths, as brave as thoſe
Who frown'd defeat on Edward's foes;
Of royal nymphs, as fair a race
As crown'd Philippa's chaſte embrace:
Around their king, their ſire they ſtand,
A valiant and a beauteous band.
Conſpicuous ſhining 'mid the reſt,
In chivalry's firſt honours dreſs'd,
For Cambria's prince, for George's heir,
Albion prefers this ardent prayer:
Thine be the ſacred wreath of virtuous praiſe,
Thine youthful Edward's fame, but crown'd with length of days.

O! ſtill, as this auſpicious morn
Awakes the muſe's votive lays,
May peace, and health, and fame adorn
The tributary ſtrain ſhe duteous pays!
And while where'er his navies ride,
Where'er his legions bend their courſe,
Oppreſſive rage and giant pride
Yield to his firm, but temperate force!
Guarded he ſtands from inroad's fear,
By freedom's ſhield, by valour's ſpear;
Tho' dark deſpair, and ſhame, and woe,
Lurk in the wreaths that bind the guilty brow,
In George's diadem reſplendent ſhine
Glory's unſullied beams, and virtue's gems divine.

* The name of Windſor is derived from the winding ſhore.

Whimſical Epitaph on a Tombſtone in Thetford Church-yard.

MY grandmother was buried here,
My couſin Jane, and two uncles dear.
My father periſhed with a mortification in his thighs;
My ſiſter dropp'd down dead in the Minories.
But the reaſon why I'm here interr'd, according to my thinking,
Is owing to my good living and hard drinking.
If therefore, good Chriſtians, you wiſh to live long,
Beware of drinking brandy, gin, or any thing ſtrong.